

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 DHA-05 AID-05 CA-01 IO-13 /085 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CAR:G DE SANTILLANA/KAR

APPROVED BY ARA:S A SHELTON

ARA/CAR:A HEWITT

D/HA:M SCHNEIDER

ARA:G LISTER

-----083956 291118Z /13

R 290717Z SEP 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 234220

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP, PINT, SHUM, HA

SUBJECT: HAITIAN RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS: CALL
ON PRESIDENT DUVALIER

REF: (A) PORT AU PRINCE 3590; (B) PORT AU PRINCE 3587

1. THE DEPARTMENT CONSIDERS DUVALIER'S AMNESTY OF
104 POLITICAL PRISONERS -- COMPRISING MOST OR
PERHAPS ALL OF THE REMAINING POLITICAL PRISONERS
IN HAITI -- AN IMPORTANT ACHIEVEMENT FOR THE
HAITIAN GOVERNMENT AND FOR OUR HUMAN RIGHTS
POLICY. WE THINK THIS ACT MERITS SOME
RECOGNITION BY THE U.S.

2. UNLESS YOU PERCEIVE OBJECTIONS, YOU SHOULD
REQUEST AN EARLY APPOINTMENT WITH DUVALIER TO
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COMMEND PRISONER RELEASE. YOU MAY ALSO TAKE
THE OCCASION TO INFORM DUVALIER OF ASSISTANT
SECRETARY TODMAN'S PLANS TO VISIT HAITI, IF
CONVENIENT FOR THE GOH (SEPTEL). IN THE
MEETING YOU MAY:

-- EXPRESS THE USG'S GRATIFICATION AND

ENCOURAGEMENT AT HIS IMPORTANT ACTION.

-- COMMEND HAITI'S SIGNATURE OF THE AMERICAN
CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN WASHINGTON
SEPTEMBER 27, WHICH WE ALSO CONSIDER A MOST
IMPORTANT ACTION.

-- EXPRESS OUR HOPE THAT THE GOH CAN, AS A
FURTHER HUMANITARIAN GESTURE, RESPOND ON A
CASE-BY-CASE BASIS TO INQUIRIES FROM FAMILIES
OF PRISONERS WHO MAY HAVE DIED IN PRISON.

-- STRESS THAT WE VALUE OUR CLOSE AND FRIENDLY
RELATIONS WITH HAITI AND LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUING
TO WORK WITH THE GOH IN PROMOTING OUR SHARED CONCERN
FOR THE ALLEVIATION OF POVERTY, ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT, AND THE ENHANCED OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN
RIGHTS IN ALL THE NATIONS OF OUR HEMISPHERE. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMNESTY, POLITICAL PRISONERS, PRISONERS RELEASE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE234220
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: G DE SANTILLANA/KAR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770355-0163
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977097/aaaaafpq.tel
Line Count: 81
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c2d57f47-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 PORT AU PRINCE 3590, 77 PORT AU PRINCE 3587
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1293448
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: HAITIAN RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS: CALL ON PRESIDENT DUVALIER
TAGS: PDIP, PINT, SHUM, HA
To: PORT AU PRINCE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c2d57f47-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009